

26 November 1956

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL IOTAC MEETING**  
**21 November 1956 - 1400 hrs.**

**1. Present:**

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IOTAC*

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2. The meeting was called, at the request of AD/CR, to consider the NSA views on the release to RSB/SR of information on foreign radio frequency usage, as reported in [redacted] memorandum, and to formulate an Agency position to the specific proposal of General Canine for a co-location at Fort Meade of RSB/SR, operating as an Agency controlled unit, with the NSA activities dealing with frequency usage data.

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3. The meeting was briefed on the history of Agency negotiations with NSA concerning NSA support to RSB/SR, and particularly on a proposal of NSA for the relocation of RSB/SR at Fort Meade made in a letter of [redacted] to DCI of 13 April 1956, and the Agency response to this proposal formulated in a DD/CI memorandum to Director, NSA of 21 June 1956,

4. [redacted] then, supplemented his memorandum and stated that

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a. His personal interpretation of the NSA views as reported in his memorandum may not be identical with an official response of NSA to the DD/CI letter of 21 June 1956, currently under preparation by [redacted] of NSA.

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b. His personal opinion is that [redacted] did not view his proposal as a "package deal" to condition the further release of all NSA held frequency usage data upon the Agency agreement to co-locate RSB/SR with NSA.

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c. Contrary-wise, it was his feeling that [redacted] sincerely desires to assure a steady and effective support to RSB/SR as required by NSC 169 and to provide, at the same time, an effective feedback of data accumulated by RSB/SR into the NSA newly organized processing center.

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5. The IOTAC members, therefore, considered two aspects of the NSA views, as reported:

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(a) Those dealing with the intentions of [ ] to provide a continuous flow of NSA material required by RSB/SR for its activities and

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(b) [ ] proposal for co-location of RSB/SR and the NSA data processing center at Fort Meade.

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6. Members concluded, in regard to Item 5(a) above, that [ ] intention to assure a continuous flow to CIA of NSA material required under NSC 169, if reasserted in the formal NSA letter currently under preparation will provide a very satisfactory resolution of the past NSA-CIA discussions on such material.

7. In regard to the NSA proposal for the co-location of RSB/SR and the NSA processing center at Fort Meade, members concluded that:

a. The proposal appears to have definite merits and should be considered by the Agency in light of specific and formal terms when submitted by NSA,

b. The proposal should be viewed in terms of an Agency long-term planning of RSB/SR data handling against specific assessments of the future rate of data intake, reconversion of the current IBM handling process into a computer method of processing, future operational requirements for RSB/SR personnel and space, and the needs of the consumers for RSB/SR end products.

c. At least one of these assessments can not be made effectively present, since RSB/SR has only limited experience in regard to 705 computer requirements, capabilities, program, and availability to CIA on a share-the-load basis. Such experience can be best obtained by a pilot scale participation of RSB/SR personnel in the NSA program for the use of such computer.

8. The Committee recommends, therefore, that no positive action by the Agency, in regard to the reported NSA views, is required at present, and that such action be formulated upon a receipt of a formal NSA proposal. The Committee feels, however, that should this proposal reflect the interpretation of the NSA views as reported by [ ] memorandum the Agency should express its appreciation to NSA for the

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NSA readiness to assist the Agency in its responsibility for NSC 169, and to assure NSA that the NSA proposal for co-location at Fort Meade and the use by the Agency of a 705 computer will be carefully considered. The Committee feels that it is important to the Agency to obtain first-hand experience in the use of a digital computer for data processing, and that such experience can be best provided by a pilot scale participation of the Agency personnel in the NSA programming of such computer for handling radio frequency usage data.

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**Chairman, IOTAC**

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